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District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **ILLEGAL ALIEN AND CONVICTED FELON SENTENCED TO 40 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A FIREARM AND ILLEGAL RE-ENTRY AFTER DEPORTATION**

TUCSON – Sergio Alberto Millan-Castro, 42, of Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced here on February 20, 2006 to 40 months in federal prison, to be followed by 36 months of supervised release, by U.S. District Judge Raner C. Collins. Millan-Castro pleaded guilty without a plea agreement on November 2, 2006, to an indictment charging him with Illegal Alien in Possession of a Firearm and Illegal Re-entry after Deportation.

On July 20, 2006, Millan-Castro was apprehended by federal agents at a Super 8 Hotel in Nogales, Ariz. during a larger investigation of an alien-smuggling operation at that hotel. Millan-Castro was found to be a Mexican citizen illegally in the United States. At the time of his arrest, Millan-Castro was in possession of a Sig Sauer P229 .40 caliber semiautomatic handgun which he claimed to have purchased in Tucson. Further investigation revealed that Millan-Castro had been convicted of a drug trafficking offense in the United States in 1987 and was sentenced to 7 years in prison to be followed by 10 years of supervised release. After serving his prison sentence for the drug trafficking conviction, Millan-Castro was deported back to Mexico in 1992. Millan-Castro had not obtained the necessary permission from U.S. government officials prior to returning to the United States.

The investigation in this case was jointly conducted by the United States Border Patrol and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution was handled by Jennifer J. Maldonado, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-1408-TUC-RCC  
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